Australian Community Indicators Network - full post

Posted on 23 September 2011

In May, we attended a teleconference held by the Australian Community Indicators Network (ACIN). A video of the teleconference is available here.

The teleconference was a presentation by Meg Holden. She is the Director of Regional Vancouver Urban Observatory (RVu). It was a very interesting presentation and I highly recommended you watch it if you have the time. I'll post on some of what Meg talked about in a future blog. For now, I'd like to talk about ACIN.

ACIN "aims to assist people using or developing community indicators to share ideas and information and to foster collaboration". It grew out of National Community Indicators Summit in Brisbane in July 2009, which was hosted by the ABS. My director, Sue Taylor, is on the ACIN steering committee, along with people like Mike Salvaris, who is currently the guru in the field of measuring progress, and who is connected with many similar projects listed on this blog.

At the summit, it was recognised that there was the need to establish a way for all the different indicator projects to be able to communicate with each other. And the result was ACIN.

ACIN has only just started to gear up. Its first event was the teleconference by Meg Holden. The second event was held last Friday, and was attended by 170 people across 12 sites, including in all of the ABS regional offices. Last week's seminar had three presenters - Mike Salvaris (who spoke about the ANDI), Sue Taylor (who spoke about the MAP 2.0 consultation so far), and Anthony McGregor (from SEWPaC who soke about what they're planning to do in developing indicators about livable communities.

ACIN is not a indicator project in itself. It won't be producing indicators, but it is a place for people who are involved or interested in indicator work to communicate with each other, ask questions and know what other organisations and localities are doing. You can get involved with ACIN by going to their website.

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